ORF 7112..7255

/note="ORF3 48 AA"

misc. 7244..7254

/note="PPT, polypurine tract"

3'LTR 7256..7582

/note="U3-R of 3' LTR (U3-R junction undetermined)

misc. 7563..7569

polyadenylation signal

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 17 and 18 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please replace claim 12 as follows:

12. (Amended) Method for studying and/or monitoring T-cell proliferation in vitro, according to which the T cells from a patient are brought into contact with synthetic peptides belonging to SEQ ID NO. 31.

Please add new claims 19-31 as follows:

--19. Method according to claim 10, characterized in that the biological sample is a biological fluid chosen from serum, plasma, synovial fluid and urine.--

--20. Method for studying and/or monitoring T-cell proliferation in vitro, according to which the T cells from a patient are brought into contact with transcription/translation products as obtained according to the method of claim 19.--

--21. Reagent for detecting, in a biological sample, an autoimmune disease or monitoring pregnancy, comprising at least one transcription/translation product as obtained according to the method of claim 19.--

--22. Reagent for detecting, in a biological sample, an autoimmune disease or monitoring pregnancy, comprising at least one synthetic peptide belonging to SEQ ID NO: 31.--

--23. Reagent for detecting, in a biological sample, an autoimmune disease or monitoring pregnancy, comprising at least one protein according to claim 14.--

--24. A method for detecting susceptibility to an autoimmune disease or monitoring pregnancy of a patient, comprising bringing a biological sample of said patient into contact with at least one fragment according to claim 1.--

--25. The method of claim 24, wherein said autoimmune disease is multiple sclerosis.--

--26. A method for detecting susceptibility to an autoimmune disease or monitoring pregnancy of a patient, comprising bringing a biological sample of said patient into contact with at least one transcription/translation product as obtained according to the method of claim 19.--

--27. The method of claim 26, wherein said autoimmune disease is multiple sclerosis.--

--28. A method for detecting susceptibility to an autoimmune disease or monitoring pregnancy of a patient, comprising bringing a biological sample of said patient into contact with at least one synthetic peptide belonging to SEQ ID NO: 31.--

--29. The method of claim 28, wherein said autoimmune disease is multiple sclerosis.--

--30. A method for detecting susceptibility to an autoimmune disease or monitoring pregnancy of a patient, comprising bringing a biological sample of said patient into contact with at least one protein according to claim 14.--